

NNSA NEWS

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Y-12 Site Office News Release

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Y-12 SITE OFFICE BECOMES FIRST DOE OFFICE TO RECEIVE ACCREDITATION FOR TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION PROGRAM

YSO's Mark Sundie Recognized for leading DOE Accreditation

Oak Ridge, Tenn. – The National Nuclear Security Administration's Y-12 Site Office has become the first office in the entire U.S. Department of Energy to achieve Board accreditation of its Technical Qualification Program.

The Technical Qualification Program (TQP) helps to ensure the technical competency of Federal employees responsible for providing assistance, guidance, direction, oversight, or evaluation of contractors in the operation of defense nuclear facilities such as the Y-12 National Security Complex. The TQP Accreditation Board consists of a group of senior Department of Energy (DOE) officials from across the complex who are responsible for environment, safety and health programs and facility operations.

Theodore Sherry, Y-12 Site Office Manager, said, "We are very pleased with YSO receiving this accreditation. While this reflects well upon the entire YSO staff, I would like to single out Mark Sundie for special recognition for his role in this achievement. Through his hard work, YSO is serving as a model for other sites seeking TQP accreditation."

Sundie led a comprehensive program-wide evaluation, including a review of training, education, and experience of YSO staff involved in technical oversight activities. He also organized a training workshop for representatives from other sites across the DOE complex to share YSO's experience in pursuing TQP accreditation.

Mark Sundie said, "The TQP accreditation will be valid for four years and will be reevaluated at that time. Because our TQP is accredited, NNSA oversight organizations that routinely conduct onsite reviews of technical quality programs will be able to tailor their reviews of this program, thus saving scarce Federal oversight resources."

Sundie was formally recognized by Martin Schoenbauer, Principal Assistant Deputy Administrator for Operations, Defense Programs, during Schoenbauer's recent visit to Y-12. He was presented with a plaque signed by Deputy Secretary of Energy Clay Sell.

Sundie serves as the YSO Training Program Manager and Operations Engineer. He has been a member of the YSO staff since 1995. He previously was employed by DOE at the Savannah River Operations Office in South Carolina where he served as a facility representative and program engineer. Before joining DOE, he was employed by the Tennessee Valley Authority and was responsible for nuclear reactor core surveillance and restart testing and served as a reactor refueling test director. Sundie received a B.S. degree in nuclear engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

The mission of the NNSA's Y-12 Site Office is to ensure the safe, secure and cost-effective operation of the Y-12 National Security Complex. Y-12 is a key facility in the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Complex and is responsible for ensuring the safety and reliability of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile. YSO employees perform program oversight, contract and administrative management and technical evaluation and assessment to meet this mission.

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Photo available upon request.

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